

Amendments of the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified patent application:

Listing of Claims

1-60. (cancelled)

61. (currently amended) A method of accelerating receipt of data in a client-to-client network, wherein a first client of the network operates a software program which implements a query and each of at least two other clients of the network ~~each provide~~ provides solely a portion of a response to the query, whereby the response to the query includes a plurality of response portions from the at least two other clients, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a) monitoring, at an acceleration server
10 operatively connected to the client-to-client network, all
communications on a communication channel to and from said
first client to identify communications containing said query
and said response portions;

(b) intercepting, from among all said
15 communications on said communication channel, the query and
the response portions from the at least two other clients,
wherein said intercepting is performed by [[an]] said
acceleration server ~~operatively connected to the client-to-~~
~~client network;~~

20 [[(b)]] (c) aggregating by said acceleration
server the response portions into the response from the at
least two other clients; and

[[(c)]] (d) transmitting at least a portion of
the response from said acceleration server to the first
25 client.

62. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, wherein said intercepting the query and the response portions is performed by a plurality of acceleration servers operatively connected to the client-to-client network, and
5 different response portions are intercepted by each acceleration server.

63. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, wherein another acceleration server is a client of the client-to-client network, the method further comprising ~~the step of:~~
[[(d)]] (e) relaying solely a portion of the
5 response from said another acceleration server to said acceleration server.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein said acceleration server is further operatively connected to a server of a client-server network, whereby said intercepting reduces traffic through said server.

65. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, wherein said intercepting the query and the response portions is performed by redirecting the query and the response portions.

66. (previously presented) The method of claim 65, wherein said redirecting is performed by a layer 4 switch.

67. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, wherein said acceleration server has a location that is ~~selectably either one of:~~ in a local area network, in a server at a cable television provider junction, at a satellite relay
5 link, or within an ADSL junction.

68. (previously presented) The method of claim 61 wherein said query includes a request for data and the response includes said data.

69. (previously presented) The method of claim 68, wherein said data is in a format selected from the group of file types consisting of MP3, DVid, MPEG-2, MPEG-1, M-JPEG, MPEG-4, ActiveMovie/Video for Windows (.avi), QuickTime(.mov),
5 RealVideo(.rm and .ram), H263.1, HTML, Flash, Gif, Tif, mpeguid and exe.

70. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, further comprising ~~the step of~~, prior to said transmitting:
[[d)]] (e) analyzing the response portions based on at least one variable; and
5 [[e)]] (f) storing the response portions based on said at least one variable.

71. (previously presented) The method of claim 70, wherein said variable is selected from the group consisting of temporal information, ordinal information, frequency information, client information and identification
5 information.

72. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, further comprising ~~the step of~~, prior to said transmitting:
[[d)]] (e) analyzing a direction of the response portions in accordance with a cache policy, wherein
5 said cache policy is selectably either unidirectional or bidirectional.

73. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, further comprising ~~the step of~~, prior to said transmitting:
[[d)]] (e) checking availability of at least one other client of the at least two other clients prior to
5 said intercepting said response portion from said at least one other said client.

74. (previously presented) The method of claim 73, wherein said checking availability further includes checking availability of requested data stored on said at least one other client.

75. (currently amended) An acceleration server, operatively connected to a client-to-client network wherein a first client of the network operates a software program which implements a query and each of at least two other clients of the network ~~each provide~~ provides solely a portion of a response to the query, whereby the response to the query includes a plurality of response portions from said at least two other clients, the acceleration server comprising:

(a) a monitoring mechanism which monitors all communications on a communication channel to and from said first client to identify communications containing said query and said response portions;

(b) an interception mechanism which intercepts, from among all said communications on said communication channel, the query and the response portions from the at least two other said clients;

[[b)] (c) an aggregation mechanism which aggregates the response portions into the response from said at least two other clients; and

[[c)] (d) a transmission mechanism which transmits at least a portion of the response from said acceleration server to said first client.

76. (currently amended) The acceleration server[[,]] according to claim 75, wherein said interception mechanism includes a redirecting device.

77. (currently amended) The acceleration server[[,]] according to claim 75, further comprising:

[[d]] (e) a processing mechanism which checks availability of at least one other client of said at least two
5 other clients, prior to intercepting the response portions from said at least one other said client, and analyzes the response portions based on at least one variable.

78. (currently amended) The acceleration server[,] according to claim 77, wherein said at least one variable is selected from the group consisting of temporal information, ordinal information, frequency information,
5 client information and identification information.

79. (currently amended) The acceleration server[,] according to claim 77, further comprising:

[[d]] (e) a storage mechanism which stores the query and the response portions.

80. (currently amended) A ~~program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of~~ machine-readable medium encoded with instructions executable by ~~the~~ a machine to perform a method for accelerating receipt
5 of data in a client-to-client network, wherein a first client of the network operates a software program which implements a query and each of at least two other clients of the network ~~each provide~~ provides solely a portion of a response to the query, wherein the response to the query includes a plurality
10 of response portions from said at least two other clients, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a) monitoring, at an acceleration server operatively connected to the client-to-client network, all communications on a communication channel to and from said
15 first client to identify communications containing said query and said response portions;

(b) intercepting, from among all said communications on said communication channel, the query and

the response portions from the at least two other said
20 clients, wherein said intercepting is performed by [[an]] said
acceleration server ~~operatively connected to the client to-~~
~~client network;~~

[[b)] (c) aggregating by said acceleration
server the response portions into the response from said at
25 least two other clients; and

[[c)] (d) transmitting at least a portion of
the response from said acceleration server to said client.